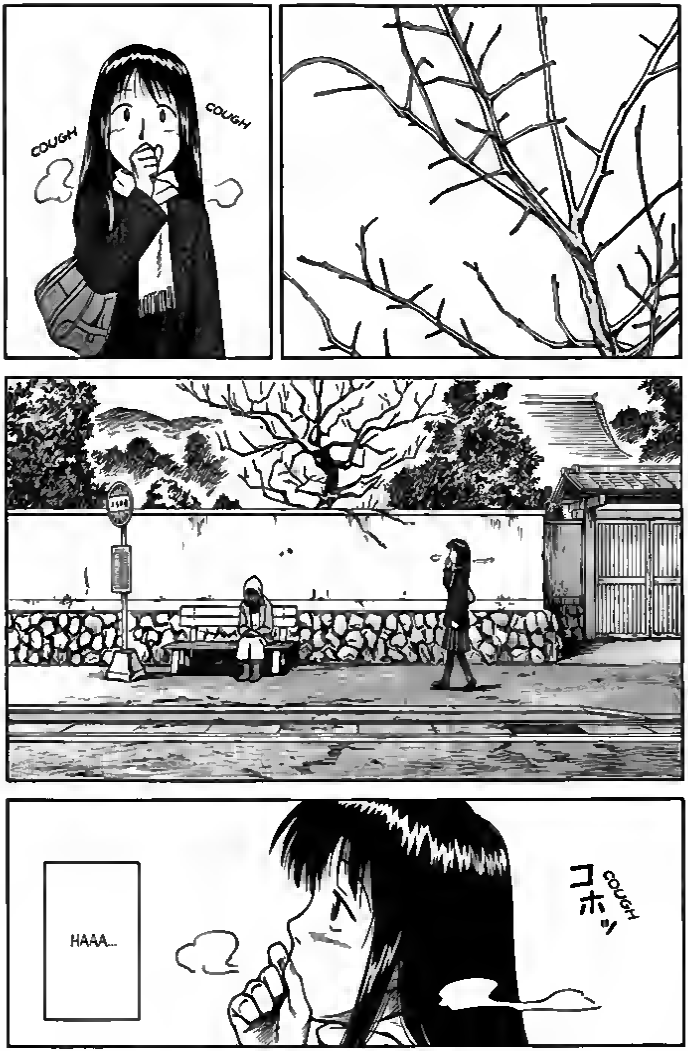
#7
MOKURIKOKURI

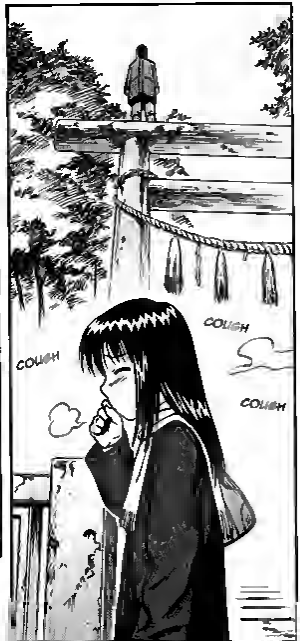

COUGH
COUGH
HAAA...
コホッ
COUGH

コホコホ
COUGH
COUGH
コホ
COUGH
THIS PLUM TREE
SEEMS TO HAVE TROUBLE BLOOMING
I THINK I CAUGHT A COLD
ぐず！
HMM...
COUGH
COUGH

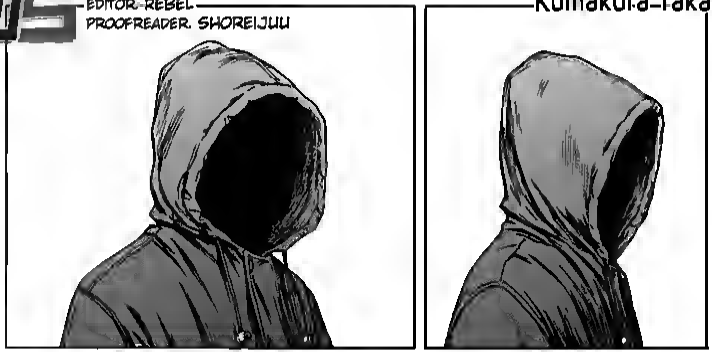
AH!

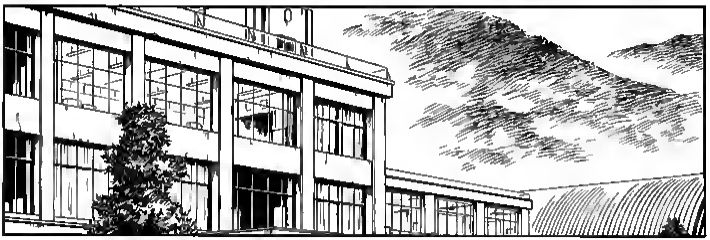
WHO'S THAT?

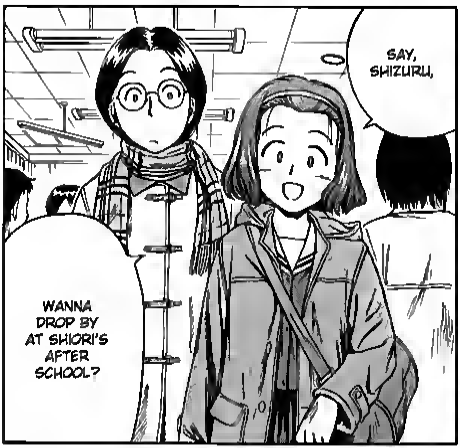
I SHOULDN'T STARE AT IT IT'LL GET ME IN TROUBLE.
IT'S A CREATURE FROM THE OTHER SIDE.


COUGH
COUGH
COUGH

コホ
コホ






SAY, SHIZURU,
WANNA DROP BY AT SHIORI'S AFTER SCHOOL?

DING!
DONG

SORRY BUT I CAN'T...
YOU DON'T LOOK GOOD AT ALL
HMMM...
YEAH
THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO
YOU SHOULD GO HOME AND GET SOME REST
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I'VE BEEN STAYING UP TOO LATE RECENTLY
AAAH I'M FEELING DIZZY~

YOU'RE ABLE TO SEE ME, RIGHT?
YOU SAW ME THIS MORNING, DIDN'T YOU?
OH NO...
HEY,
YOU CAN SEE ME, ISN'T IT RIGHT?
HELLOO!

I HEAR NOTHING! I SEE NOTHING!
LEAVE ME ALONE!
ぐずー

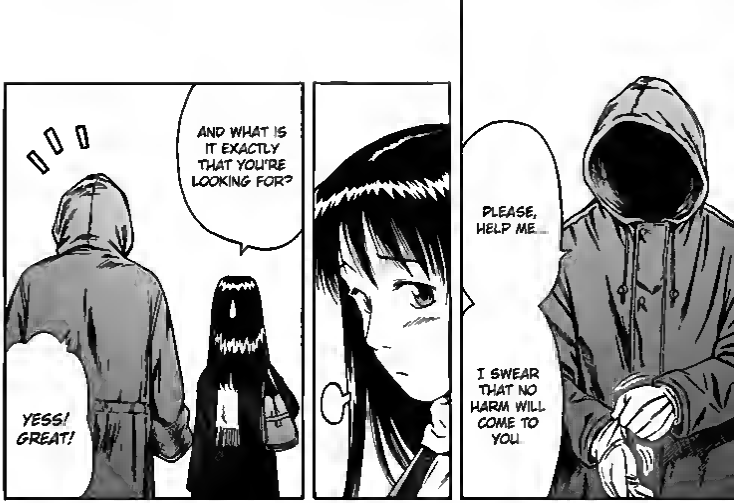
I'M LOOKING FOR AN OBJECT.
CAN YOU HELP ME?

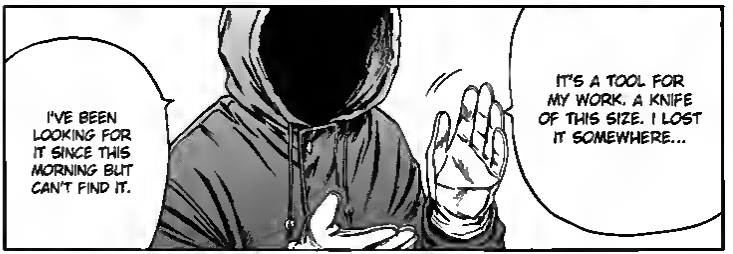
……

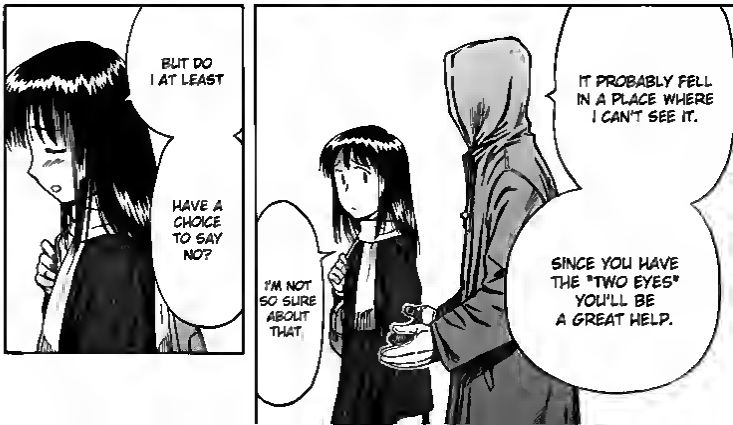
ぬ

WANT ME TO GET RID OF IT?
LOOKS LIKE YOU CAUGHT A NASTY COLD.

ひょ
ふいっ
HUH.
I FEEL BETTER.
ちら
YOU JUST SAW ME.
ビキ
!

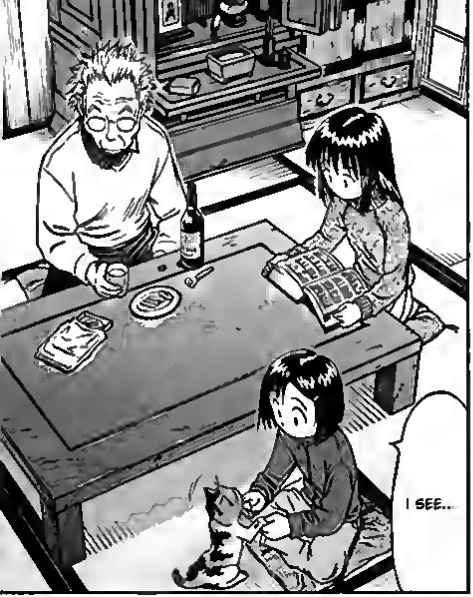

PLEASE, HELP ME...
I SWEAR THAT NO HARM WILL COME TO YOU.
AND WHAT IS IT EXACTLY THAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?
YESS! GREAT!


IT'S A TOOL FOR MY WORK. A KNIFE OF THIS SIZE. I LOST IT SOMEWHERE...
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR IT SINCE THIS MORNING BUT CAN'T FIND IT.


IT PROBABLY FELL IN A PLACE WHERE I CAN'T SEE IT.
SINCE YOU HAVE THE "TWO EYES" YOU'LL BE A GREAT HELP.
I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT.
BUT DO I AT LEAST HAVE A CHOICE TO SAY NO?

ARE YOU A DOC-TOR?
HMMM, NOT REALLY...
I DO MY ROUNDS EVERY YEAR.
IF YOU HELP ME, I WILL EXAMINE AND EVEN TREAT YOU FOR FREE.
YOU WILL FEEL A LOT BETTER!
TREAT ME?!
SO DO YOU WANT ME TO EXAMINE YOU?
THANKS, BUT NO, THANKS!
THAT'S TOO BAD, BUT I DON'T LIKE FORCING PEOPLE
SO IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO, I WON'T INSIST ANYMORE.
.....
-:SIGH:-
WELL, JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE THEN
REALLY?!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.
I AM MOKURI KOKURI.
AND YOU?
HIIRAGI.
JAPANESE ENCYCLOPEDIA
広辞苑
AND?
DID YOU HELP HIM TO LOOK FOR IT?

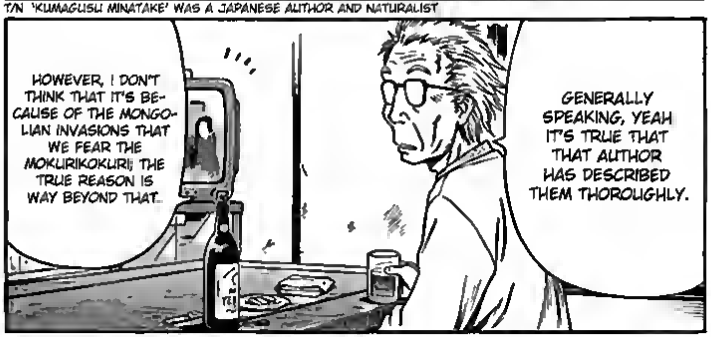


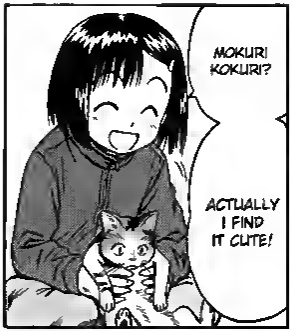
MokuriKokuri:
1 - the invasion of Mongolia and the Korean Empire was feared by the Japanese, hence the expression "the oni mokurikokuri are coming."
Over time, this expression has made its way into the social customs to scare children...

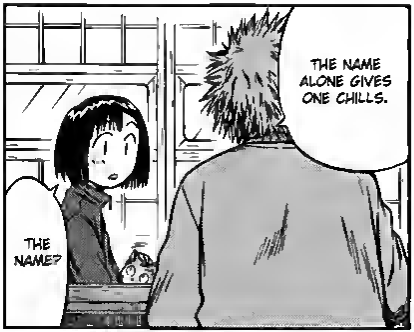
YES, BUT I DIDN'T FIND IT

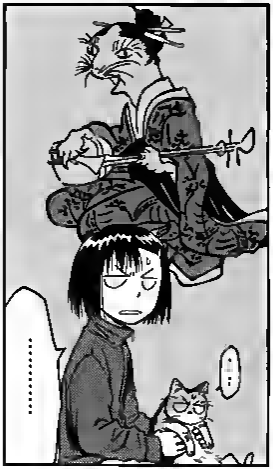
GRANDPA, IS THE MOKURIKOKURI ONE OF THOSE "PHANTOMS THAT CONFUSINGLY SCARE" CHILDREN, LIKE MINATAKA SAYS?
IT SAYS THAT THEY'RE ONI BUT WHAT I SAW DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ONE TO ME

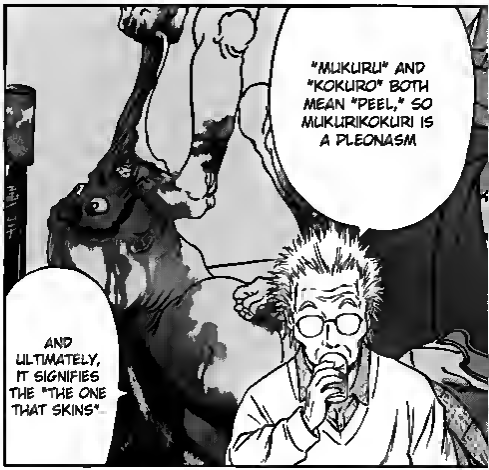
T/N 'KUMAGUSU MINATAKE' WAS A JAPANESE AUTHOR AND NATURALIST

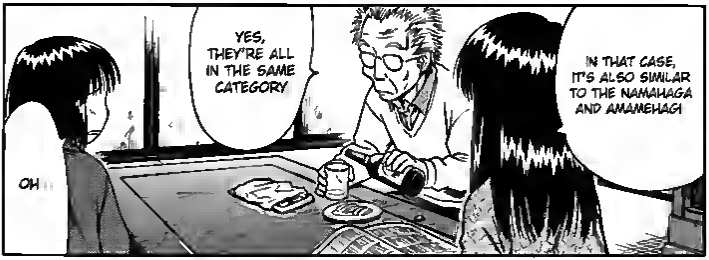

HOWEVER, I DON'T THINK THAT IT'S BECAUSE OF THE MONGOLIAN INVASIONS THAT WE FEAR THE MOKURIKOKURI; THE TRUE REASON IS WAY BEYOND THAT.
GENERALLY SPEAKING, YEAH IT'S TRUE THAT THAT AUTHOR HAS DESCRIBED THEM THOROUGHLY.

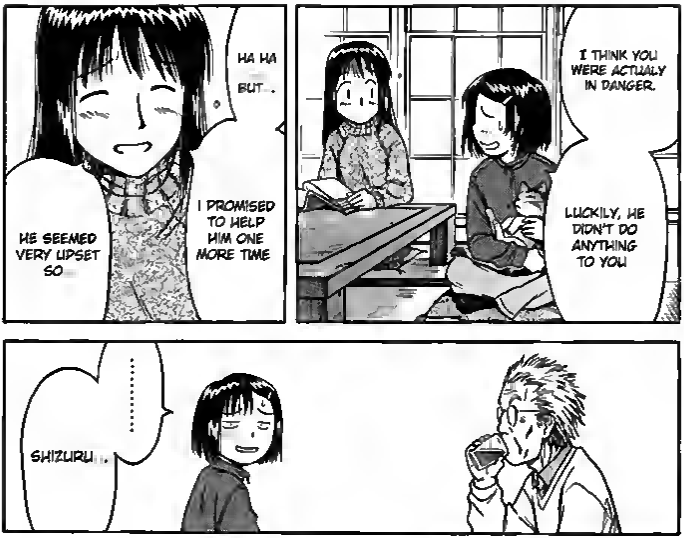

MOKURI KOKURI?
ACTUALLY I FIND IT CUTE!

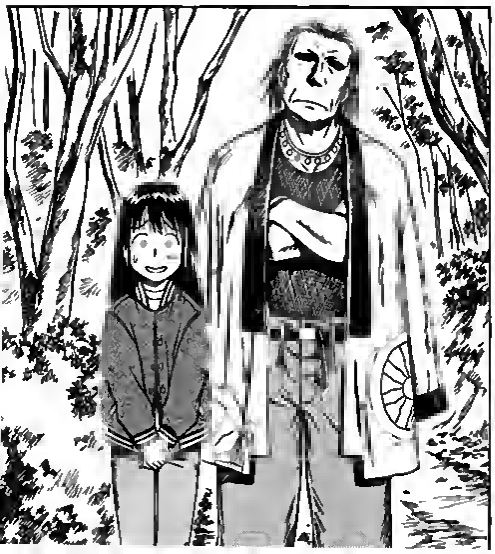

THE NAME ALONE GIVES ONE CHILLS.
THE NAME?

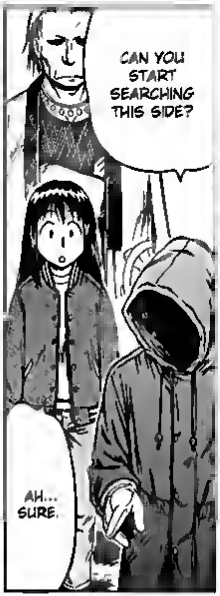

……
!!

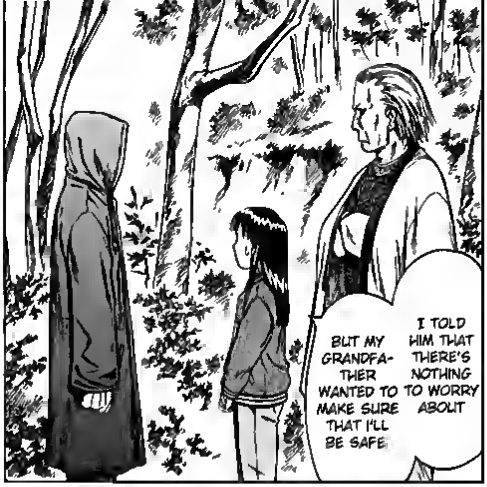

"MUKURU" AND "KOKURO" BOTH MEAN "PEEL," SO MUKURIKOKURI IS A PLEONASM
AND ULTIMATELY, IT SIGNIFIES THE "THE ONE THAT SKINS"


YES, THEY'RE ALL IN THE SAME CATEGORY
IN THAT CASE, IT'S ALSO SIMILAR TO THE NAMAHAGA AND AMAMEHAGI
OH!!

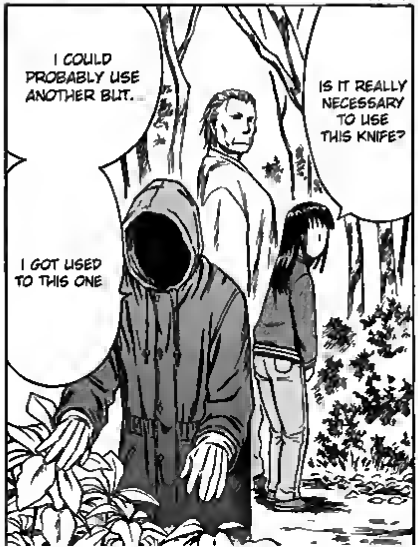

HA HA
BUT...
I PROMISED TO HELP HIM ONE MORE TIME
HE SEEMED VERY UPSET SO...
I THINK YOU WERE ACTUALY IN DANGER.
LUCKILY, HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU
.....
SHIZURU...

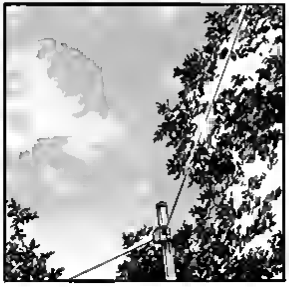




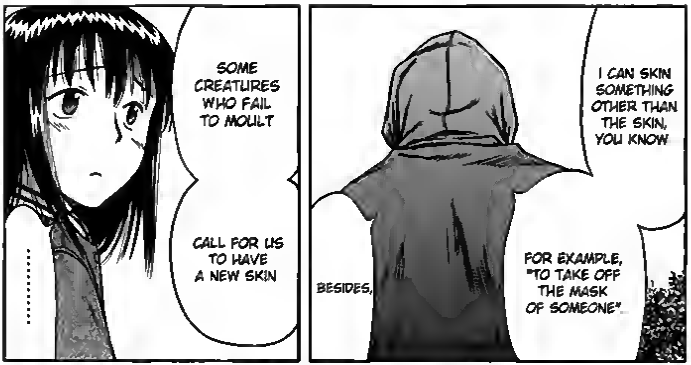


(*) GUARDIAN DEITY OF BUDDHISM. APPRENTICE TO A PRIEST

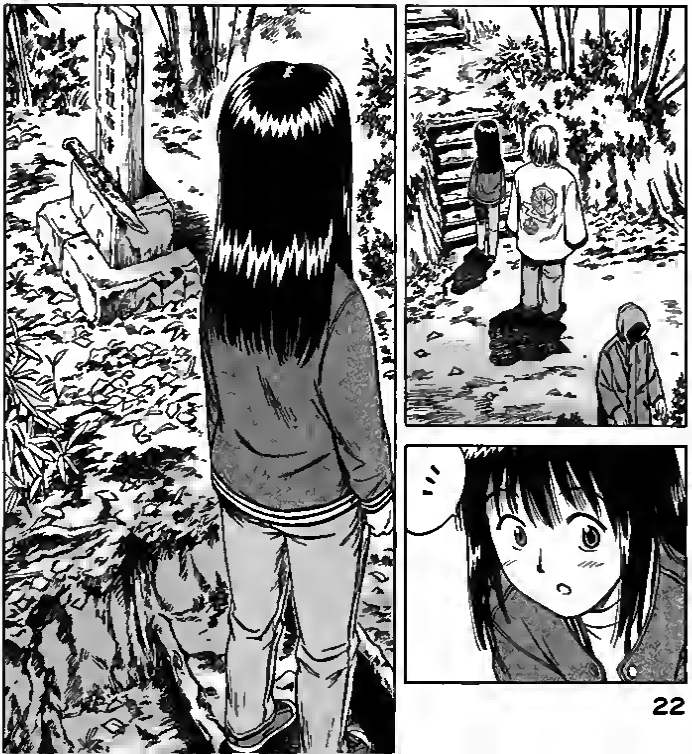




YES, MAYBE... OR I WILL CALL ONE OF MY COLLEAGUES TO REPLACE ME.
SINCE I CAN NO LONGER POSTPONE THE RITUAL, IT WILL BRING MISFORTUNE.
I JUST WANT TO DO A GOOD JOB, YOU KNOW.
IF YOU DON'T FIND IT TODAY, ARE YOU GOING TO USE ANOTHER ONE?
HA HA...
WELL THAT'S A QUESTION YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR THE ANSWER TO.
YES
MISFORTUNE?
SAY...
DO YOU KILL AND DEVOUR HUMANS, TOO?
HUH?
BUT IF YOU DO, THEN ..
BESIDES, I HAVEN'T DONE THAT TO A HUMAN IN A WHILE.
THE JOB OF A MOKURIKOKURI IS TO SKIN.


SOME CREATURES WHO FAIL TO MOULT
CALL FOR US TO HAVE A NEW SKIN
.....
I CAN SKIN SOMETHING OTHER THAN THE SKIN, YOU KNOW
BESIDES,
FOR EXAMPLE, "TO TAKE OFF THE MASK OF SOMEONE"

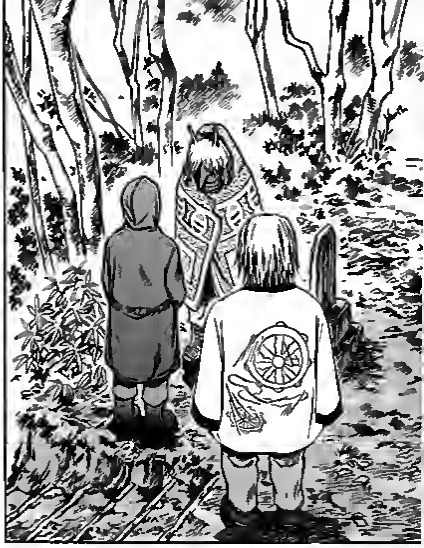
T/N "TO UNMASK" IN JAPANESE MEANS LITERALLY "TO PULL OFF THE SKIN OF FACE"

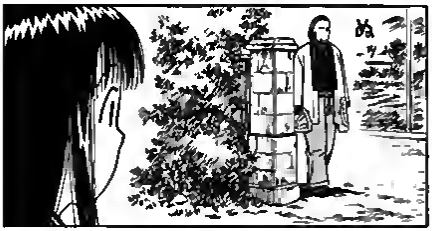


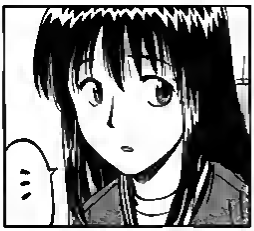
THE BLADE IS COMPLETELY RUSTED
I WONDER IF IT'S STILL USABLE?
AH...
COULD IT BE THIS ONE?
.....
I DON'T THINK HE'LL HURT ME BUT...
CAN'T BE TOO CAREFUL...

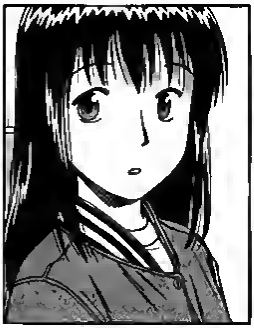
HIIRAGI,
DID YOU FIND IT?
SHE WENT BACK
AND LEFT HER GOHOU ALONE...
AHA! THERE IT IS!
ARGH, IT'S TOTALLY RUSTED!

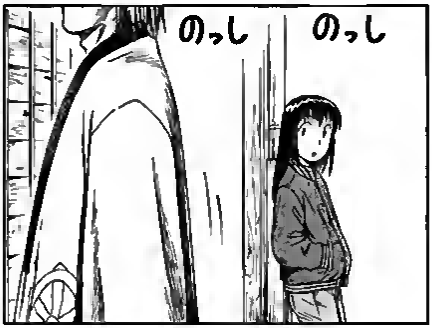
I HAVE FOUND THIS KNIFE NEAR THIS PLACE, BUT SINCE IT MAY SCARE THE OTHER WANDERING SPIRITS,
I SEALED IT AND GUARDED IT CLOSELY
I SEE... SO THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T FIND IT!
WHO ARE YOU?
I AM THE ONE WHO RESIDES IN THIS GRAVE
IT WILL BE NEW AGAIN ONCE THE SEAL IS UNDONE
I AM GOING TO RETURN IT TO YOU NOW
HA..
HA HA HA ..




ぬ
ーッ


ニ




のっし
のっし

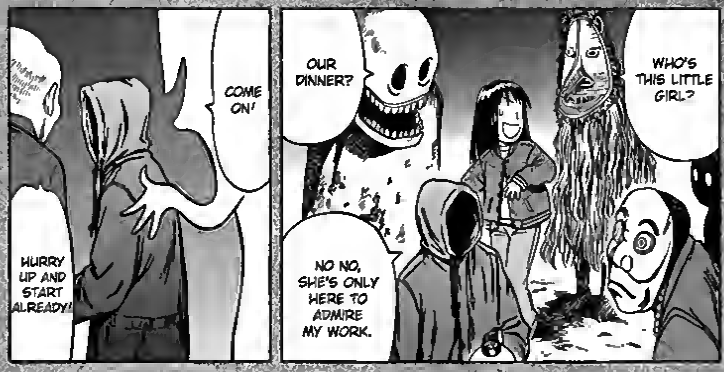
ガラ
GOHOU IS BACK.
YEAH... I KNOW
HE HAS A MESSAGE FOR YOU
THE MOKURIKOKURI THANKS YOU FOR YOUR HELP.
.....
I GUESS HE WASN'T BAD AFTER ALL.

.....
I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT HIM THEN..
I'D REALLY LIKE..
TO SEE HIM AGAIN
ARE YOU WORRIED BECAUSE IT'S VERY LATE?
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! I EVEN RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM YOUR GRANDFATHER.
I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF..
HA HA HA!

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WANT TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND I KNOW IT'S IMPORTANT.
HIIRAGI IS NOT EVEN YOUR REAL NAME, IS IT?
I'M SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY...
I MEAN LEAVING WITHOUT NOTICE
IT'S OKAY
HA HA
WELL, MINE IS REALLY MOKURIKOKURI.
.....
ONE MUST NOT UNMASK A MOKURIKOKURI.
IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT.
THAT'S NOT TRUE. YOU'RE LYING...
YOU ONLY PRETEND TO BE ONE.
WAAA WAAA
AAAH...
EVERYBODY IS ALREADY HERE.
DO YOU SEE THEM? THAT'S WHERE IT ALL GOES DOWN.

わら わら わら

キャ キャ キャ
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE'S A PLACE LIKE THIS NEAR HOME


COME ON!
HURRY UP AND START ALREADY!
OUR DINNER?
NO NO, SHE'S ONLY HERE TO ADMIRE MY WORK.
WHO'S THIS LITTLE GIRL?

HUH!
I SAW HER SOMEWHERE BEFORE
IT STINKS.
Y-... YEAH.
IT'S LIKE A PARTY, YOU SEE.
ALL RIGHT, SIT BACK AND RELAX.
ビッ
ビッ
ビッ

AHAA, SEE ALL THAT? IT'S DEAD SKIN!
HOOOO!
THIS FEELS GOOD!
HA HA HA
I FEEL SO LIGHT!

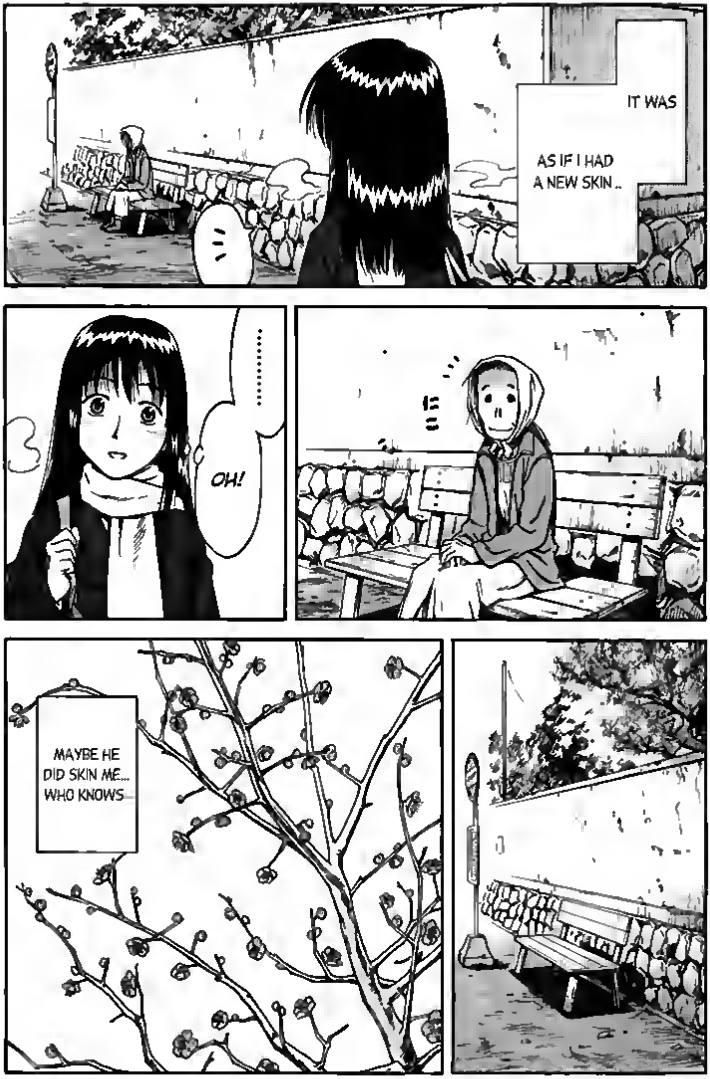
やい
やい
COME ON, WHO'S NEXT?
YES, YES, IT'S ME!
ぞりぞりぞり
HVA HVA HVA!
びしゃ!
OH MAAN! IT FEELS AWESOME!
DAMN RIGHT!
I REALLY WANT TO HAVE A NEW SKIN SOON TOO!
OF COURSE YOU DO!
さかさかさか
ビィッビッビッ
HYAHAHA
WAHAHAHA

YEAH, THAT'D BE GREAT!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST SAW IT.
HUH?!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
NEXT ONE?
THIS TIME I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE A HUMAN.
YEAH!
IT'D BE NICE IF HE DOES.
BESIDES, WE HAVEN'T EATEN HUMAN SKIN IN A LONG TIME
WAIT!
NO!
HUH?
!
YOU'RE GONE. HAVE A BALL, TRUST ME.

I DID PROMISE YOU.
IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, I'LL DO IT WITH GREAT PLEASURE.
SO, WHAT DO YOU SAY?

OOPS..
SHE PASSED OUT.
HMMM...
I THOUGHT SO...
HUMANS ARE NOT FOND OF THIS RITUAL.
IT'S A SHAME.

ぐか〜
か〜
UHHH
……
ODDLY, DESPITE EVERYTHING, I FELT COMPLETELY REFRESHED
むにゃ〜
I'M ASHAMED OF MYSELF



7 / END

RECRUITING

WE'RE IN NEED OF TRANSLATORS

IF YOU WANNA HELP, CONTACT US THROUGH OUR EMAIL
MANGASYNDROME90@GMAIL.COM
OR LEAVE A COMMENT ON OUR BLOG
HTTP://MANGASYNDROME.BLOGSPOT.COM